

DATE

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ROUTING

SECRET

INITIAL INFO

TO :

CHIEF

FROM :

ACTION:

INFO :

IN 52053

TO

INFO

CITE

SECRET 190812Z CITE [] 8500

OXCART MAT

SUBJECT: TYPE I CONTROL HEAD TAPE FAILURE (BX6722) AND EXPOSURE SLIT VARIANCE (BX6723)

1. THE FAILURE OF THE CONTROL HEAD TO PROPERLY MOVE THE PROGRAM TAPE WAS TRACED TO A FAULTY DRIVE MOTOR WITHIN THE HEAD ITSELF. PROCEDURES ARE NOW IN EFFECT TO ASSURE THE [] EXPOSURE VALUE, PUNCHED ON THE TAPE, IS PHYSICALLY IN POSITION TO SELECT THE PROPER EXPOSURE VALUE PRIOR TO INITIAL TURN ON BY THE PILOT. PREVIOUS TO THIS TIME, THE INITIAL TURN-ON TWO MINUTE PILOT CHECK OF THE SYSTEM DID NOT SELECT A PREDETERMINED EXPOSURE SETTING, JUST OPERATED THE PACKAGE. IN ADDITION, DURING THE PREFLIGHT, THE EXPOSURE SLITS WILL BE LEFT IN THE DIRECTED [] VALUE OR IF NOT RECEIVED PRIOR TO UPLOAD TIME, THE PREVIOUS [] VALUE WILL BE USED. IN THIS CASE, IF ANOTHER FAILURE OCCURED, THE PROPER VALUE AS

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DIRECTED, WOULD BE IN POSITION.

2. THE SLIGHT EXPOSURE VARIANCE OF THE FORWARD AND AFT UNITS IN TYPE I (C) IS PRESENTLY BEING INVESTIGATED. PRELIMINARY RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION INDICATE NO MECHANICAL COMPONENT FAILURE. MEASUREMENTS USING THEODOLITE AND OTHER TEST EQUIPMENT ARE BEING TAKEN IN ORDER TO MAKE COMPARISONS BETWEEN ESTABLISHED VALUES AND ACTUAL MEASURED VALUES AND ALSO TO CHECK REPEATABILITY. WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED.

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